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in a campaign to have "The Fern" legally created the state emblem. In spite of many good arguments in its favor, this proposition has been opposed by various citizens who prefer the mountain laurel, and seems to have met defeat in the first encounter, the House of Representatives having recently passed a bill naming the laurel as the state flower.

American Fern Society

MANILA, P. I., SEPTEMBER 12, 1914.

MR. L. S. HOPKINS,
Curator of Herbarium,
American Fern Society,
Kent, Ohio.

MY DEAR MR. HOPKINS:

The fact that I have never made a contribution to the herbarium of the Fern Society has long been a source of trouble to my conscience and, as I look over the last annual report of the Curator, I come to the conclusion that there must be many more members with a troubled conscience or else many members without any at all.

With our large membership it seems to me that it would be a very easy matter to build up a good representative collection of the ferns of the United States simply by each member going through his duplicates and contributing one set and in making collections, to add one more for the Society.

As I am not in the "Mother Country," I cannot help along that line, but decided some time ago that "our colonies should be represented," so I have taken out one set of my duplicates and as a result I am sending you, under registered mail, 500 specimens as my contribution; these are practically all Philippine material, but in order to make the set up to an even 500 I had to add some odds and ends from China, Japan, and North Wales.

The identifications are made in accordance with material which I contributed to the Bureau of Science here in Manila, and if any further study in the United States is desired a duplicate set has been presented to the Smithsonian Institution, which can be referred to. I have been unable to give the identification of the Selaginellas, as much of the material belonging to the Bureau of Science, including the set of my duplicates, is in the hands of Dr. Hieronymus, of Berlin, who is preparing a monograph of this group, and upon publication I presume this material will be cited and you will then be able to make up the identifications yourself.

I have followed the nomenclature of Christensen's Index Filicum, as that is the one adopted by the Philippine Bureau of Science.

In fixing up this set I felt that some apology should be made for the duplication of certain things; for instance, the Lygodiums possess a fascination for me; the forms look different in the field, and I cannot keep from collecting them, but when I come to compare them later they seem to run together; *L. flexuosum*, *L. scandens*, and even *L. japonicum*, then *Adiantum philippense*, *Notholaena densa*, *Cheilanthes tenuifolia*, and *Hemionitis arifolia*, are all very common about Manila, and I am always collecting a "better specimen." They make a variety as to locality and time of year.

There has likewise been much pleasure, on my part, connected with the preparation of these specimens; the few from North Wales brought back wonderful days on the mountains with all their glory of gorse and heather; the Japanese things, a day's tramp from Nagasaki to Mogi and back, and those from China, days at Hong-kong, Canton, and at Nankou Pass, where one goes to see the "Old Wall of China."

In the Philippines there have also been delightful days just outside of Manila, a camp on Mt. Marivales,

the climbing of Mt. Maquiling, trips through the wonderful mountains in the head-hunting country, and three unsuccessful attempts to get inside of the crater of Mt. Banahao, an old extinct volcano of about 7,500 feet elevation.

I am sure that the members of the Society will not derive anything like the pleasure out of these that I have in the collecting, but hoping that there will be some pleasure and much profit, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

D. LeROY TOPPING.

TREASURY BUREAU, MANILA, P. I.

A Word from the Editors.

In past years the editors have called upon the members to send in the sort of articles which they like best since the JOURNAL exists to represent the activities of all the members. To these calls there has been an ever increasing response. At first only about enough was received to fill the number of pages which the Society's finances would allow us to print. Now there is always on hand enough for a full number and a surplus toward the next number. It is becoming necessary now to print the contributions in the order of their receipt, and there are always things which have to be left over a number which might well be included, and other things which could be written if the funds were available for printing.

This is particularly true in the case of illustrations. Two years ago the JOURNAL published an account of a collecting trip by Mr. Ransier with numerous pictures. A friend seeing it made the comment that "she supposed that he received a lot of money for it." As a matter of fact it cost him over seventeen dollars, for he very generously stood the cost of all the pictures. This is

merely one case of a sort which has occurred often. Probably half or more of the illustrations for any given year have been paid for by extra subscription.

As the President points out on another page, we are now in the position almost of asking any contributor of an article calling for an illustration to pay for this. We do not wish to discourage any writer from contributing articles, illustrations, and cash, but we feel that this load should not fall only on those who write for us. We feel that there are members who enjoy the JOURNAL although they do not write any articles for it. We ask such members to help us make the JOURNAL better by contributing toward an illustrating fund in any amount. The sky is the limit. We will use all that is sent. It may be noted that the editors have in the past made their contributions regularly.

If this appeal seems like the kind of exhortation sometimes necessary at the close of the year in churches, please remember that it merely represents the ambition of the editors to make the JOURNAL increasingly better. We expect to do this gradually by increasing the membership and the consequent dues, but until such increase has become a fact some substitute method is required.

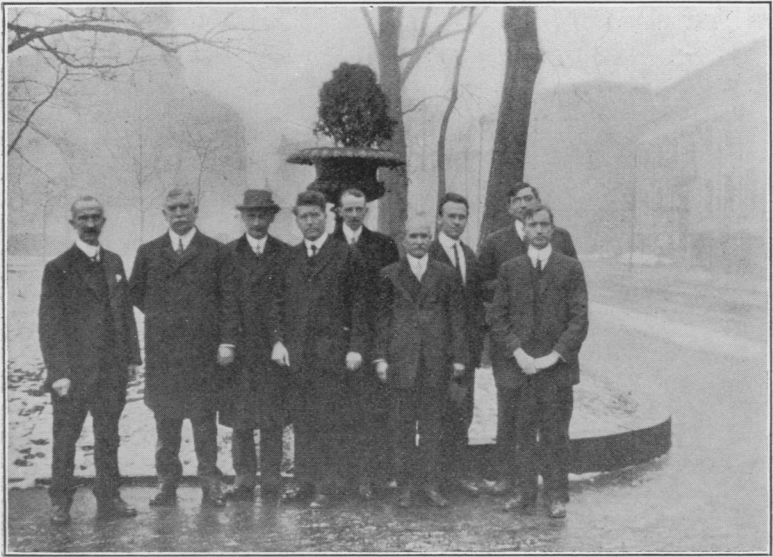
The subscription list is now open.

R. C. BENEDICT,
E. J. WINSLOW.

The Philadelphia Meeting

A meeting of the Society was held, as announced, at Philadelphia, on December 28th and 29th, in connection with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The Academy of Natural Sciences very kindly placed a convenient room at our disposal, and the Committee on Arrangements, Messrs. J. G. Scott, Chairman, T. C. Palmer, Wertsner, and Benedict, attended efficiently to all preparations.

Proceedings began with an informal dinner, at which the outlanders had an opportunity to get acquainted with one another, as well as with the cookery for which Philadelphia is justly renowned. All hands then repaired to the Academy, where Dr. Benedict read a paper by Paul C. Standley on the Ferns of New Mexico, which



AT THE PHILADELPHIA MEETING

From left to right—Stewardson Brown, J. G. Scott, C. H. Bissell, L. S. Hopkins, C. A. Weatherby, Herman Burgin, Bayard Long, R. C. Benedict, E. J. Winslow.

was abundantly illustrated with herbarium specimens of the species mentioned, loaned by the National Herbarium, and with excellent photographs of them in their native haunts. Mr. Redles followed with an informal and highly entertaining talk about his experiences in fern-hunting in the vicinity of Philadelphia, speaking with especial feeling of the hardships, in the way of heat,

sand, and mosquitos—particularly mosquitos—which one is likely to encounter who goes forth in search of curly-grass. A social hour followed, in which the members present appeared to be taking full advantage of the opportunity to get acquainted and to compare notes and specimens.

At the next morning's session, the walls were pretty well covered with an exhibit of specimens. Messrs. Bigelow, Bissell, Weatherby, and Winslow contributed *Dryopteris* hybrids; Mr. Bissell, a very full set of forms of *Lycopodium clavatum*, *L. complanatum*, and related species; Prof. Hopkins, the North American species of *Polystichum*, including his lately described *P. Andersonii*, and a frond of probably the rarest North American fern, *Cheilanthes Parishii*; and Mr. Pickett, forms of *Pellaea atropurpurea*.

Mr. Bissell spoke on the work and problems of the Society. Mr. Jellett followed with an account of the ferns and the history of the Wissahickon Valley—classic ground, over which generations of Philadelphia botanists have worked. Next came a symposium on *Dryopteris* hybrids. Dr. Benedict pointed out the characters of some of the hybrids exhibited. He said that if collectors should now send up from the tropics specimens differing from known species as much as some of our hybrids from their supposed parents, taxonomic experts would unhesitatingly describe them as new. Yet, of our hybrids, only *Dryopteris Boottii* had been so described by the earlier American botanists. Hybridity, he said, is the best working hypothesis to account for the numerous forms of *Dryopteris*. Some plants, when crossed, produce not one, but two intermediates, according to which is the male and which the female, parent; and this tends further to explain the presence of so many different strains. Mr. Winslow said that the abundance of some supposed hybrids had been used as an argument

against their hybridity. But hybridization is easy under favorable conditions, owing to the immense number of spores produced and the consequent crowding of the prothallia. And, as hybrid plants are usually more vigorous than their parents, they may be expected to outlive them and so increase in relative abundance. Dr. Benedict added that hybrids might reproduce themselves vegetatively, as fern fronds resting on the ground had been known to develop prothallial tissue directly without the intervention of a spore stage.

Mr. Scott told something of the associations and points of interest of the part of Philadelphia in which the meeting was held, and of the laying of plans for it; and reported the progress of the movement to make the fern the state flower of Pennsylvania. After passing votes of thanks to Mr. Topping for his gift of 500 sheets of Philippine ferns to the Society herbarium, to the Committee on Arrangements and the Academy of Sciences, the meeting adjourned.

About twenty members and several outside visitors attended, and I am sure all would agree with me that the meeting was thoroughly worth while, if only for the opportunity it gave to each of us to know, appreciate, and enjoy his fellow-members better and, by learning of their work, to stimulate and refresh his own interest. It is hoped this may be only the first of a series of meetings in different parts of the country.

As many as possible of the papers presented will be printed in later numbers of the JOURNAL, that those members who were not there may share, as far as may be, in the good time, and the profit, of those who were.

C. A. WEATHERBY,

Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE SOCIETY

Report of the President for 1914.

To the members of the American Fern Society:

The work of the Society for the past year has been handicapped to a certain extent by the inexperience of three of its officers, its president, secretary, and treasurer all being new to their positions. Prof. Hopkins, who was re-elected secretary, found that other duties claimed his attention and did not take office for 1914, the president being obliged to appoint to fill the vacancy. From my knowledge of the working of similar organizations I am sure the best interests of the Society require that the offices of secretary and treasurer should be made as nearly permanent as possible. I am glad to say that the men who held these positions for 1914 have been re-elected, and I sincerely hope that the members will see fit to continue them in office from year to year as long as they are willing to serve.

Soon after taking office it came to my knowledge that the Society did not possess a file of the *Fern Bulletin*, in which publications of its members appeared for a series of years, and that it did not even own a file of its own annual reports. This seemed a mistake and some correspondence was undertaken to try to remedy the defect. Through the generosity of Miss Mirick and Messrs. Clute and Winslow, there is now in the hands of the secretary a set of officers' reports from 1895 to date, as well as a few miscellaneous papers. The Council has also had two sets of the JOURNAL bound and placed with the Secretary. As a beginning toward a file of the *Fern Bulletin*, Prof. Hopkins has sent in copies representing eight different issues. Will not other members send in any extra issues they may have? If we have a member who has a set of the *Fern Bulletin* that they might be willing to donate to the Society, I

am sure the hearty thanks of every member would be offered in return.

The report of the Secretary will tell you that we have just about held our own as to membership. The Society needs a few more members very much and I want to state as briefly as I can just why they are needed. The question of finances requires considerable attention from your officers. They have made a careful estimate of probable income and expenditure for the coming year, and it sums up as follows:

Expected income from memberships, subscriptions, etc.....	\$280.00
Estimated expense for printing membership lists, postage, mailing JOURNAL, supplies for curator, and expenses of editors and officers.....	73.00

Allowing \$7.00 for unexpected expense we have available for printing the JOURNAL \$200.00. This will just about pay for printing four issues of a 32-page JOURNAL without illustrations. The editors have abundant material on hand to fill an even larger number of pages, but cannot print them on account of the expense; and also they are obliged, if we have illustrated articles, to ask the contributors to help defray the cost of the necessary plates. If we had 300 instead of 225 members, the additional cost to the Society for the new members would be very slight and the income could be used to make the JOURNAL more attractive and funds would be available for the Society herbarium. If we are to have the new members desired, they must come through the individual efforts of members. Promiscuous advertising is almost useless, but personal effort with those known to be interested in ferns will bring results. Some large libraries and educational institutions are subscribers to the JOURNAL. They are a valuable asset to the Society and more such subscriptions could be secured if our members who are acquainted with the proper officials would bring the JOURNAL to their attention.

In making up the budget, no account was made of expected receipts from the sale of back numbers of the JOURNAL. As time goes on, these back numbers will be a valuable asset of the Society, but the amount received from year to year is uncertain and the Council believes that whatever is received from this source should not be used for current expense, but set aside for emergency or special work.

I doubt if the members begin to appreciate the amount of unselfish, unpaid work the editors of your JOURNAL are constantly giving to the Society. Just the matter of necessary correspondence takes a great deal of time. The editors are busy men, so, if your JOURNAL happens to be a little late in coming, make allowances. The herbarium of the Society deserves and should have more done for it than we have been able to do this year; and the thanks of the Society should be given also to Curator Hopkins for the time and labor he is giving to it.

We have a cordial invitation from one of our California members, Prof. Badè, of Berkeley, Cal., to have a meeting of the Society there when the American Association for the Advancement of Science holds its sessions there next summer, rooms for the meeting being available in the Botanical Building of the University of California, and it is proposed to arrange for such a meeting. The distance will prevent many of our members from attending, but some of them will undoubtedly visit the Pacific coast the coming summer and this meeting will give them a fine opportunity to get acquainted with the California botanists.

A second invitation from California, from Mr. H. H. Tracy, suggests the possibility of a field meeting for a week or more to some one of the great natural features of California, such as the mountains, the big trees, or Yosemite, with a chance to get well acquainted with some of the native ferns as they grow naturally. Such a trip would not, Mr. Tracy writes, be very expensive.

It is hoped to have a field meeting of the Society at some point in Central New York the coming summer.

I would suggest that members living in adjacent towns or states get together for one or more local field meetings; they will be quite worth while, even if only a few can attend.

Our Society is intended to help those interested in this beautiful group of plants to get and keep in touch one with another and can be of most value only when this is accomplished.

C. H. BISSELL.

SOUTHINGTON, CONN.

Report of the Secretary for 1914.

During the year, two members, Mr. George F. Cleveland and Mrs. M. R. Knauff, have died, as previously recorded in the JOURNAL. Ten have resigned; under the new Constitution 19 have been, regretfully, dropped for non-payment of dues; and 23 new members have been received. The present membership is 227, as against 240 on last year's list. The loss, however, is more apparent than real, since, of the 19 dropped, 12 were already more than two years in arrears in 1913 and would not have appeared in the list for that year if the present constitution had been then in force. Making this allowance, the Society has about held its own.

In this connection, one point is perhaps worth mention. Some of the members who resign give as their reason that they have no time for fern study. The provision that members are expected to engage in some line of fern study is no longer in the constitution; and those who retain interest enough to wish to help fern study in general can do it, we believe, by continuing their membership and their support of the Society. Every dollar helps.

The committee appointed some time ago to prepare a revision of the constitution finished their work during the year and their recommendations were adopted by a nearly unanimous vote. The most radical change made was the abolition of the advisory council—a body which, though excellent in theory, had not been found satisfactory in practice—and the transfer of its duties to a nominating committee, to be appointed each year by the President. The new plan had a trial at the annual election and worked well. It is gratifying also to record that the number of votes cast, though still not as large as it should be, was larger than that recorded for any other year except 1910.

A meeting of the Society was held at Philadelphia in connection with that of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. A separate report of it will be published in the JOURNAL.

The Secretary will be grateful for the prompt correction of any errors in the forthcoming list of members.

C. A. WEATHERBY.

EAST HARTFORD, CONN.

Report of the Treasurer

Financially the year has been most successful, not, however, to the extent that the large balance seems to indicate. The appended tabulation shows the condition of the Society funds on December 31, 1914, at which time there were outstanding certain unsettled accounts properly chargeable to 1914. The bills for printing the JOURNAL comprise the greater part of these unpaid claims and remain unpaid through no fault of the Treasurer, the delay being due largely to an unfortunate series of errors in billing and validating over

which he had no control. A resumé of the unpaid claims properly chargeable to 1914 is as follows:

Balance as per appended tabulation.....	\$109.12
Bills receivable—advertising.....	4.00
	<hr/>
	\$113.12

BILLS PAYABLE

500 AMERICAN FERN JOURNALS, Vol. IV, No. 3.....	\$43.25
600 AMERICAN FERN JOURNALS, Vol. IV, No. 4.....	47.10
600 Table of Contents, Vol. IV.....	4.25
Postage, Managing Editor.....	1.00
Mailing and truckage, Vol. IV, No. 4.....	1.57
Author's changes.....	5.90
	<hr/>
	\$103.07
Balance above all charges.....	10.05
	<hr/>
	\$113.12

During the year the practice of delivering bills with the JOURNAL has been inaugurated. This measure has been adopted in the interest of economy. By this means a saving of more than \$5.00 has been effected over the old method of sending by letter and a still further saving of \$5.00 could be made if members would be willing to have their receipts returned in the JOURNAL. This would involve, of course, a considerable interval between the payment of the bill and sending of the receipt.

Members residing outside of New England and New York City, who pay their dues by check, could contribute to the material welfare of the Society at trivial expense to themselves if they would make their checks for \$1.10 instead of \$1.00. The Boston banks charge ten cents for collecting checks drawn outside of New England and the Society loses ten cents on all such accounts.

Considerable attention has been given during the year to collecting unpaid dues, with very satisfactory results. It has been impossible to represent matters to all the delinquents in such a way that they were willing to face their obligations. Some have, but others have not, and

with reluctance several names have been dropped from our roll.

In the matter of new members the Society is to be congratulated, for although members occasionally resign or otherwise leave the ranks new members take their places, as will be seen by the report of the Secretary. During the past year, for instance, the receipts from new members was \$25.00, while new subscribers yielded an income of \$10.35.

During the year past a change in the conduct of the affairs of the Treasurer's office has taken place, a change so important that it deserves brief mention at this time. Under the old Constitution it was necessary before a bill, no matter how trivial, could be paid to obtain the consent of the Council. The new Constitution is less exacting in the matter of payments so that it has been possible to effect a change which it is hoped will result in a great saving of time and energy. This is brought about by a Budget which provides certain definite specified amounts for certain definite specific purposes covering the current running expenses of the Society and authorizes these payments by the Treasurer direct upon proof of correctness. A Budget for the year 1915 has been approved by the Council and the experiment will be tried next year of paying current running expenses direct.

For its past our Society has nothing to be ashamed of, and the present is entirely satisfactory. How shall we most wisely provide for the future? That we are growing can not be denied. Can we not grow more? grow stronger and larger and better? In my opinion this is a matter requiring most earnest deliberation. *We want more members! more subscribers!* How can they be obtained? To consider this question I propose and I make the suggestion that a Committee be appointed to consider and report.

In conclusion I wish to say that it has been a pleasure to act during 1914 as Treasurer of the Society. All with whom I have come in contact—members and officers alike—have been courteous and kind. I have one request to make to *all* our members. I want your full names for my files. Not merely your first name, but *all three names in full*. (Example—John Penfield Smith.) When you send me your dues for 1915 please send me your full name.

Appended you will find my tabular report for 1914.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT FROM JANUARY 1, 1914, TO DECEMBER
31, 1914.

RECEIPTS				
Balance on hand January 1, 1914.....				\$11.92
Membership dues—old—				
1908.....	\$1.00			
1909.....	2.00			
1910.....	4.00			
1911.....	6.00			
1912.....	6.00			
1913.....	18.00			
1914.....	159.70			
1915.....	11.00			
		207.70	\$207.70	
Membership dues—new—				
1914.....	22.00			
1915.....	3.00			
		25.00	25.00	
Total membership dues.....		232.70	232.70	
Subscriptions—old—				
1912.....	.90			
1913.....	.90			
1914.....	25.75			
1915.....	3.55			
		31.10	31.10	
Subscriptions—new		10.35	10.35	
Total subscriptions.....		41.45	41.45	
Sale of back numbers.....			27.20	
Contributions.....			4.50	
Receipts.....			305.85	305.85
Total receipts.....				\$317.77

DISBURSEMENTS

Printing and postals—vote on Constitution.....	\$4.25	
300 Constitutions.....	8.50	
300 Lists of members.....	8.00	
1000 Letter heads.....	4.00	
Printing and postals—election of officers.....	2.89	
Binding JOURNAL, 2 sets.....	2.00	
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Chargeable to Secretary.....	29.64	\$29.64
Postage, Treasurer.....	9.21	
1000 Bill heads, Treasurer.....	3.00	
To correct account with Harold G. Rugg.....	3.00	
Collection of checks.....	1.95	
<hr/>		
Chargeable to Treasurer.....	17.16	17.16
Postage, Editor.....	.50	
Author's corrections.....	3.50	
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Chargeable to Editor.....	4.00	4.00
500 Table of Contents, Vol. III.....	4.75	
500 AMERICAN FERN JOURNALS, Vol. IV, No. 1...	52.50	
500 AMERICAN FERN JOURNALS, Vol. IV, No. 2...	45.00	
Engravings for JOURNAL—12 plates.....	34.87	
Mailing and truckage, Vol. IV, No. 1.....	1.90	
Mailing and truckage, Vol. IV, No. 2.....	1.68	
Mailing and truckage, Vol. IV, No. 3.....	2.50	
Postage, Managing Editor.....	2.60	
Circulars and stationery, Managing Editor.....	12.05	
<hr/>		
Chargeable to Managing Editor.....	157.85	157.85
<hr/>		
Total Disbursements.....	208.65	\$208.65
Balance on hand December 31, 1914.....		109.12
		<hr/>
		\$317.77

FRED G. FLOYD, *Treasurer.*

Curator's Report

The last report of the Curator showed that the Society herbarium contained 1223 mounted sheets. Since that time Dr. O. E. Jennings has donated 14 sheets from his Ontario collections; Prof. H. H. Tracy, 27 sheets collected by him in California; Miss Laura Kimball, 3 sheets from the same state; and Dr. Ruth Marshall, 23 sheets collected by her in the Dells of the Wisconsin River. These specimens have all been mounted and catalogued, making 1292 mounted sheets now in the Herbarium.

Mr. Topping's collection of 500 sheets from the Philippines, as noted elsewhere, is the largest, as well as probably the most valuable, individual contribution that has yet been made to the Society Herbarium. In due time this collection will be mounted and incorporated into the Herbarium, making about 1800 sheets.

Members are urged to reread that part of Mr. Topping's letter which pertains to donations to the Society Herbarium. There should be in the Herbarium a complete collection of not only all the species found in North America, but their varieties and forms as well. Members and friends of the Society can aid very materially to bring this about if they will send in a complete collection of their local fern flora. Common as well as the rarer species are wanted.

The Society maintains an exchange department which is free to all members. There are now about 500 sheets, including 75 or more species, offered for exchange. List will be sent for a stamp. Members wishing to make an exchange should write the Curator before sending material as it is manifestly impossible for the department to give out the rarer species uniformly and receive only the commoner species in return.

Specimens will be identified whenever desired. Specimens sent in for identification will be placed in the Herbarium.

L. S. HOPKINS, *Curator*.

KENT, O.

At the annual field meeting of the Vermont Botanical Club held in Fair Haven, Vermont, (a town near the New York border) July 9-11, the following members of the Fern Society were present: Mrs. Nellie F. Flynn, Mrs. W. B. Jolly, Miss Mabel Strong, Dr. Ezra Brainerd, Mr. F. T. Pember, Mr. J. G. Underwood, and Harold

G. Rugg. Among the rarer ferns collected were: *Asplenium ruta-muraria*, *Pellaea atropurpurea*, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*, *Aspidium spinulosum*, *Aspidium Goldianum*, *Asplenium angustifolium*, *Aspidium Goldianum x marginale*, *Aspidium cristatum x marginale*, *Aspidium Clintonianum x intermedium*, *Aspidium Boottii*.

WANTED—I would very much like to have a specimen of *Botrychium tenebrosum* A. A. Eaton, *Dryopteris Clintoniana x spinulosa*, *Dryopteris Goldiana x spinulosa*, and *D. Goldiana x intermedia*, and can offer the following in exchange: *D. Clintoniana x intermedia*, *D. Clintoniana x marginalis*, *D. Clintoniana x Goldiana*, *D. marginalis x intermedia*, *D. cristata x intermedia*, *D. cristata x marginalis*, *Isoetes canadensis*.—MACY CARTHART, Keyport, N. J.

WANTED—I will pay 10 cents per sheet for any North American pteridophytes not now in my collection, or will exchange. List of desiderata sent upon application.—L. S. HOPKINS, 525 E. Main St., Kent, Ohio.

Mr. E. J. Winslow, 222 Grove St., Auburndale, Mass., offers specimens of *Botrychium simplex* to members for postage.

The Librarian of the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst has written, asking for copies of old officers' reports of the Fern Society, of which he wishes to get a complete file. If any members have old reports which they do not want, the Secretary will be glad to receive them, so that he can comply with requests like this.